



INDUSTRY WELCOMED—Mayor Albert Isen inspects a miniature race car presented to him by Belond Muffler, one of three new industries welcomed at Chamber of Commerce breakfast. From left are R. W. (Bob) Godfrey of Belond, Carl Joyce of Columbia Van Lines, Isen, and E. M. Rothermill of Shato Equipment Co., a division of Dayton Rubber. —Press Photo

- Letters to the Editor -

To the Editor:

I was most shocked to hear of the treatment given to the Norwegian boy who was recently a speaker at the Carr School PTA meeting which I and many of my neighbors attended. After the meeting we were all gratified that someone at last had the courage to speak about the criticisms which have been circulating among the parents for some time in the form of over-the-fence gossip. Though I must admit we were all a little embarrassed that we had not had the courage to openly criticize a situation which was annoying to us and about which we have been to indifferent and irresponsible to act. I think what we are doing to this boy is a mild form of persecution. If our school system is so bad we can't stand to be criticized honestly, then we should improve the system, not persecute the critics. We brag about freedom of speech and preach the Four Freedoms behind the Iron Curtain, but incidents like this make one wonder if all our talk of freedom is all blow and bluster. The saddest

part of all is that we have already lost enough prestige throughout the world, with our false pride, and now we throw away some more. What a wonderful opportunity to back up our words about intellectual freedom this could have been had we permitted this boy's sincere comments to be made without reproaching him. He will go back to his home now I am sure and tell them that all they have heard from Communist propaganda programs about America's true after all. That America is just as bad as the films full of violence and excess which we send abroad to portray America there. He will tell them that America hides behind a facade of righteousness and pride and self-love and beneath is no better than the least of the totalitarian states of which we speak with contempt.

I am aware that the Torrance Unified School System is one of the best in this area if not in the state, but it is certainly far from perfect. I think we should turn our wrath inwardly and ferret out those members of the teaching staffs who are only drawing a salary for being glor-

fied baby sitters instead of the teachers which our teenagers so sorely need. I think we should receive this and other criticisms constructively, using them to our advantage investigating the weaknesses of our system and trying to improve them. I have two children in the Carr School right now and I think it is doing a fine job on the whole, although they have had experiences with individual teachers which were not the most beneficial possible. In a few years they will be ready for high school themselves, and I am most interested in knowing just what kind of a situation I will be sending them into at this most important stage of their lives. I sincerely hope that the four years they will invest in high school will prove to be an enriching and profitable experience rather than a waste. America can and should be the richest nation in the world, but if we fail your youth we dissipate the strength of the nation.—Kathryn Burns, 16617 Ermanita Ave.

To the Editor:

The Victoria Park Civic Council wishes to extend sincere thanks for your aid in the fight against incorporation in this area. Without your favorable pub-

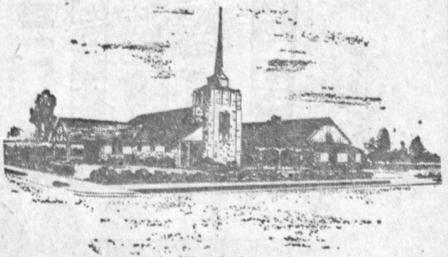
licity, tiny Victoria Park may have been swallowed up in a "Little Reno" atmosphere.

We are truly grateful for your support.—Victoria Council, Mrs. Paul Hinkle, president.

To the Editor:

An article in the Torrance Press has been called to my attention. As a result, I have discussed the American Field-Service program with the superintendent of the Torrance school system, and I am in thorough accord with his attitude toward this program. He is a firm believer in the objectives of the program, and has made no recommendation to eliminate it in his district.—A. L. Howell, regional representative, American Field-Service.

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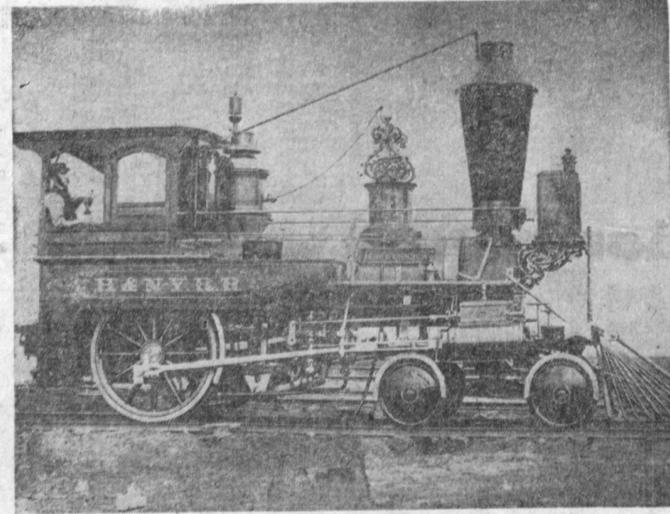
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COMPLETES COURSE
Army Pvt. Michael G. Sedlak, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Sedlak, 18808 Haas Ave., completed an automotive maintenance course April 17 at the III Corps Academy, Fort Hood, Tex.



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